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United States Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INMATE PLEADS GUILTY TO MAILING A THREATENING LETTER

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Paul Lewis Farley**, 31, an inmate at the Arizona State Prison, entered a guilty plea today before U.S. District Judge Richard D. Rogers to one count of mailing a threatening communication through the United States mail.

Melgren said that Farley admitted at his plea that on March 13, 2002, he mailed a letter from his jail cell in Arizona to a Hays, Kansas, man threatening to have the man's family killed if the man did not kill Ellis County Attorney Tom Drees. Farley further admitted that he instructed the man that he had until May 10, 2002, to accomplish the killing of Mr. Drees. Instead, the man turned over Farley's letter to authorities.

Farley faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for December 5, 2003, at 10:00 a.m.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the FBI in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Hough in this prosecution.